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POC

CATMAN

COMICS



L.B.Cole

WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM





THE CAT-MAN

and THE KITTEN

BY
CHAS. M.
QUINLAN



OUR STORY BEGINS IN A SECRET ROOM, WHERE "NAILS" MURDOCK, ERSTWHILE GANG-LORD SPEAKS---TO HIMSELF!!

I'M GETTIN' FED UP
WITH HIDIN' OUT HERE--
I WISH BOPO HAD LEFT
SOME MORE MAGAZINES!

THAT HALFWIT IS A
BIG HELP TO ME--BUT
SOMETIMES I'D LIKE
TO SHOOT HIS
STUPID FACE OFF--

-BUT IF I
DID, THAT
WOULDN'T
BE SO
GOOD!

HERE I AM--"NAILS"
MURDOCK, THE BIG-
GEST RACKET GUY IN
TOWN, HIDIN' OUT IN
A SECRET ROOM WITH
A HALFWIT FOR A
BODYGUARD--

IF I STAY HERE
MUCH LONGER, I'LL
GO COMPLETELY NUTS!
EVERYTIME I THINK
OF WHY I'M HERE,
I COULD BLOW
MY BRAINS OUT--

WHAT AM I
SAYIN'? I'M
TOO SMART
FOR THAT--

--BECAUSE IT ALL SOUNDS SO SIMPLE--EVERYTHING
BEGAN WHEN "GRIPPY" GREERS RAN INTO MY OFFICE
ALL EXCITED--"

NAILS! NAILS!
LISTEN!

HUH--?

WHAT'S WRONG?
WHADDAYA BUSTIN'
IN HERE FOR?
DID RONNIE LET
YOU IN--?

YEAH--LISSEN, NAILS,
YOU'RE ON THE SPOT--!
CHICAGO RED, THAT
GORILLA YOU HIRED
IS A COP KILLER!

ARE YOU KIDDIN'?
WHAT D'YA MEAN?

LAST NIGHT ON THAT
FRESCO FURRIERS JOB
A COP CAME ALONG,
AND CHICAGO RED
GIVES HIM THE
HEAT!



WHY, THAT STUPID
LUG--I OUGHTA
BREAK HIS HEAD
OPEN FOR THIS--

HE'S OUTSIDE NOW,
IN YOUR FRONT
OFFICE -- GET RID
OF HIM FAST,
NAILS !!

EVERY COP IN TOWN
WILL HAVE THIS MOB
DOWN--WHY, IT WON'T
BE SAFE TO WALK
AT NIGHT -

ALL RIGHT!!! I'LL
FIX HIM --- RONNIE!
SEND IN CHICAGO
RED!

RIGHT,
BOSS!



AND RIGHT
AWAY! I WANT
TO TELL HIM
SOMETHING--

NAILS IS SORE,
CHICAGO-- YOU
BETTER TAKE
IT EASY--

IT'S PROBABLY
ABOUT THAT
FLAT FOOT I
KNOCKED OFF--
IT'S TIME THIS
MOB DID A LITTLE
KILLIN' FOR A
CHANGE--YER
ALL SISSES!

VA WANNA SEE ME,
NAILS--?

YEAH--CLOSE
THE DOOR, CHIC-
AGO--- THIS IS
PRIVATE!



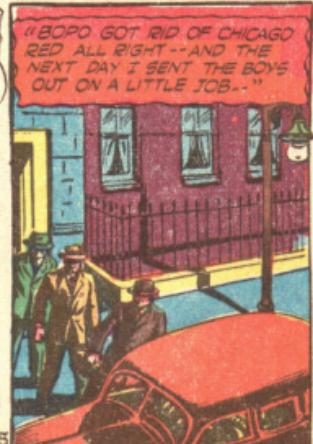
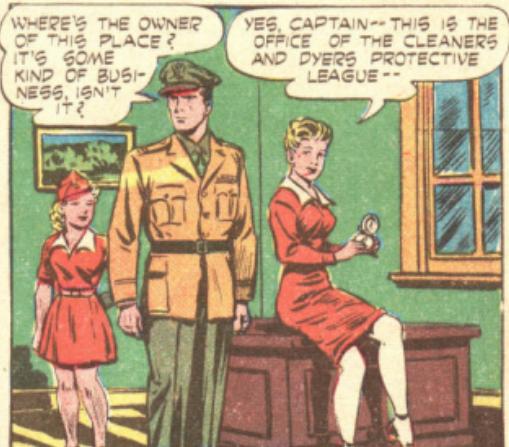


GET HIM,
BOPO!!
GET HIM!

ME FIX HIM, MR.
MURDOCK-- HE'S
BAD MAN!!

"I THOUGHT THE SOUNDS PASSED
UNNOTICED--BUT TWO PEOPLE WHO
SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN AROUND
HEARD THEM--"

OPEN UP!!
IS ANYTHING
WRONG??



"BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW THAT
TWO PAIRS OF EYES -- CAT'S
EYES -- WERE UPON THEM --"

THIS IS THE JOINT -- THE
AJAX TRUCKING CO.
PAYROLL OFFICE --
C'MON!

WE'RE
WITH
YA --

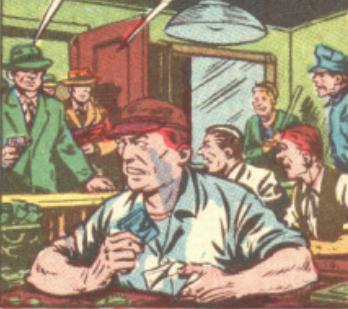
"IT WOULD HAVE BEEN A SWELL JOB --"

O.K. GUYS -- DON'T
MOVE -- THIS IS
A STICK-UP --

GET YOUR
MUTTS UP, AN'
STAND AGAINST,
THE WALL --

"THE BOYS DID A VERY
THOROUGH JOB OF IT --"

LOUIE -- THEY EVEN
GIVE YA A **BAG**
TO TAKE THE
DOUGH OUT!



"BUT THEY WERE RUDELY INTERRUPTED --"

HELLO, FELLOWS --
WHAT'S DOING?

WH-WHA? THE
CATMAN!
AND THE
KITTEN!



"-LOUIE MANAGED TO BREAK FREE--HE DASHED BACK TO MY OFFICE ALL EXCITED--"

NAILS! THE CATMAN!
THE KITTEN! THEY'RE
AFTER ME!

HUH?

"HE WAS RIGHT--A COUPLE OF MINUTES LATER THEY BOUNDED INTO THE OUTSIDE OFFICE"

HE CAME IN
HERE--I
SAW HIM!

"-FROM MY OFFICE WE SAW THEM THROUGH THE SPECIAL TRANSPARENT MIRROR I HAD INSTALLED--"

IT'S THEM,
ALL
RIGHT!

WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE,
FAST!



WE CAN SEE HIM, BUT HE CAN'T SEE US-- COME ON-- I GOTTA SECRET ROOM BEHIND THIS OTHER WALL--

GOSH--YOU THINK OF EVERYTHING, NAILS--



YA GOTTA THINK OF EVERYTHING TO BE A RACKET MAN--
GET IN!

IS IT SAFE,
THERE--?



WITH BOPA AROUND,
IT SURE IS! THERE
HE IS-- READING!

I DIDN'T
KNOW HE
COULD
READ!



HE CAN'T! HE JUST LOOKS AT THE PICTURES-- SLIDE THAT PANEL BACK--!

HELLO,
MR. MURDOCK!



YA WANNA FEEL A STRONG BACK?--
GO OVER AND SLAP BOPA-HARD!

ARE YOU KIDDIN'?
HE'D KILL ME!!





JACK ALDERMAN

"THE HOOD"

A MAN ABLAZE
WITH FIRE--AND A
BRAIN ABLAZE WITH HATRED
FOR ALL THINGS DEMOCRATIC--
HOW CAN THE HOOD, THE
FERRETER OF ENEMIES
WHO WOULD DESTROY OUR
NATION, CONQUER THIS MENACE?
HOW HE DOES IT IS TOLD
IN THE FOLLOWING TALE:
VORIS THE
FIRE-MASTER!



OUR
STORY
OPENS
AS
MAJOR
CRAIG
REYNOLDS
IS
MEETING
HIS
FRIEND
RAE
HERMAN
IN
FRONT OF
A WAR
PRODUCTION
PLANT!



LATER AFTER RAE HERMAN HAS DRESSED FOR DINNER....

HOPE I DIDN'T KEEP YOU WAITING TOO LONG...

NO... YOU WERE QUICKER THAN USUAL... LET'S GO!!



AN HOUR LATER--AT THE SAVOY-PLAZA--

GIVING UP YOUR SCREEN CAREER TO WORK IN A WAR PLANT WAS A NOBLE SACRIFICE, RAE!

LET'S NOT TALK ABOUT IT... LET'S TALK ABOUT THE VAUDEVILLE SHOW!



YOU'LL GET A KICK OUT OF IT -- THERE'S ONE PARTICULAR ACT I WANT TO SEE!

WHO IS THAT?



VORIS, THE FIRE-EATER... I UNDERSTAND HE HAS AN AMAZING ACT!

SOUNDS FASCINATING!



TWENTY MINUTES LATER...

HE CERTAINLY IS A FEROCIOUS LOOKING CREATURE, CRAIG!

THE FIRE



THE TIME GOES BY SWIFTLY DURING THE PERFORMANCE... SOON IT IS TIME FOR VORIS, THE FIRE-EATER...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN!



THIS ACT WAS NOT INTENDED FOR VAUDEVILLE... IT WAS MADE FOR CIRCUSES! BUT BECAUSE OF WARTIME CONDITIONS ABROAD, VORIS, THE FIRE EATER IS NOW IN THE BEST THEATERS IN AMERICA--MAY I PRESENT--

VORIS, THE FIRE-EATER!



I HOPE HE'S AS
GOOD AS THEY SAY
HE IS...

UGH!
HE CERTAINLY
IS UGLY!

WATCH CLOSELY
LADIES AND GENTLE-
MEN, AS I TURN
INTO--

A MASS
OF FLAMES!



AT THAT MOMENT, THE OFFICER IN THE BOX CLUTCHES AT HIS HEART--

AARRGGH!

GOOD HEAVENS!!!
COLONEL WILLIAMS
HAS BEEN SHOT!

W-WH-
WHAT?

PANIC SWEEPS THE THEATRE.
AS THE HORRIFIED PATRONS
SEEK TO ESCAPE....

EE-E-E-K!

REACHING A PLACE OF SAFETY,
CRAIG GIVES INSTRUCTIONS TO RAE--

YOU GO ON AHEAD
I'LL PHONE
YOU AFTER I
INVESTIGATE
THIS!

ALL
RIGHT,
CRAIG!

IN A SECLUDED AREA, ADJOINING
THE THEATRE, MAJOR REYNOLDS
COMES TO A QUICK DECISION.

THIS JOB CALLS FOR
QUICK ACTION... AND
THAT MEANS ONE
THING!

THE HOOD

WILL TAKE OVER
FROM NOW ON!!



SUDDENLY A FIGURE DASHES UP TO A HOUSE TELEPHONE, AND SPEAKS RAPIDLY...

VORIS, LISTEN! I'LL MEET YOU IN THE CELLAR IN FIVE MINUTES.

I'LL BE THERE TOO!

FIVE MINUTES LATER, IN THE CELLAR OF THE THEATRE ...

YOU GOT HIM?

YEAH... DEAD AS A DOORNAIL -- WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, FAST!

YOU MEAN THAT YOU GOTTA GET OUT OF HERE... EVERYONE SAW ME PUT OUT THE CANDLE WITH MY BULLET!

YES... BUT...



SO... ONE OF YOU KILLED COL. WILLIAMS! WHO DID IT?

HUH? IT'S THE HOOD!



I'LL GET HIM, VORIS!

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!!



TOUGH BOYS, EH?

I'LL FINISH HIM OFF!



PRODUCING A MATCH, THE FIRE-EATER QUICKLY APPLIES IT TO HIS SPECIALLY MADE SUIT.

SO YOU WANT TO BATTLE ME, EH, HOOD?

WHY NOT?



TASTE SOME OF MY FLAME, YOU FOOL!

AIEEE!!



TASTE MY
HEEL, YOU
HEEL!

UGGHH!

WHACK!

THE HOOD REACHES
UP AND GRABS A
FIRE-EXTINGUISHER
FROM THE WALL....

THIS IS ONE TIME
I WON'T FIGHT
FIRE WITH FIRE!

THIS'LL COOL YOU
DOWN, YOU HOT-HEADED
BONFIRE!

WITH THE FLAME POWER GONE THE
HOOD LUNGES INTO ACTION...

AND THIS WILL
PUT YOU TO SLEEP
FOR A LITTLE WHILE!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

TALK! WHO
KILLED
COL. WILLIAMS?

WE DID!
WE'RE
PART OF
GUINO
MARELLI'S OLD
MOB! WE WERE
HIRED TO KNOCK OFF
THE COLONEL!

BY
WHOM?
I DUNNO!
GUINO IS OUT
OF PRISON. HE
GOT HIMSELF
ATTACHED TO
SOME GUYS WHO
WANT A LOT OF
ARMY OFFICERS
BUMPED OFF. WE
GOT THE JOB!

AND LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

GUINO DRESSED ME UP
IN THIS SUIT... AND GOT
ME THE JOB... WHEN I
FIRED THE RIFLE, LEFTY,
MY BUDDY, PLUGGED HIM
WITH A PISTOL FROM
BACKSTAGE...

LUCKY
FOR US
THE HOOD
WAS
AROUND!

MEANWHILE MAJOR CRAIG
REYNOLDS MAKES A PHONE
CALL...

RAE? LISTEN TO THIS--
IT WAS ALL PART OF A
PLAN TO TERRORIZE
PEOPLE... AND KILL OFF
IMPORTANT OFFICERS--
THEY COULDN'T HOLD
THE FIRE-EATER....
THAT IS IF THE HOOD
HADN'T STEPPED IN...

GENERAL EVENINGS LATER...

WELL... THE FBI
ROUNDED UP
GUINO MARELLI
AND HIS MOB--
THEY WERE BEING
PAID BY AXIS
SYMPATHIZERS
TO KILL OFF
OUR HIGH OFFI-
CIALS!

IT'S
HORRIBLE,
BUT
THANKS
TO THE
HOOD,
THE
WHOLE
BUSINESS
IS CLEARED
UP!



The
End





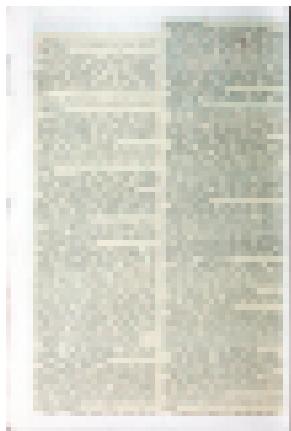
























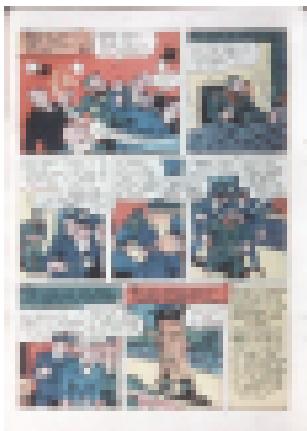












The Golden Archer

in the days of Robin Hood

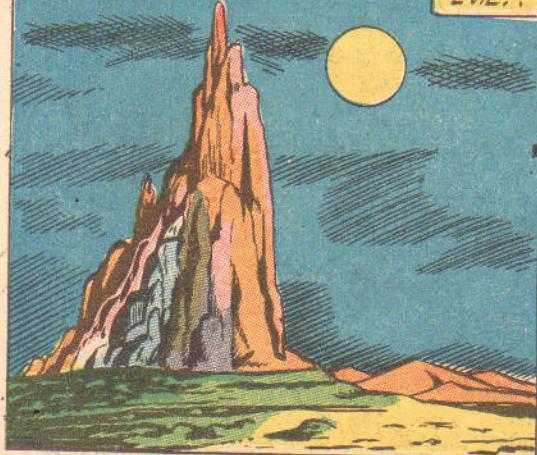
by
DON
RICO



BLACK AS THE
DARKEST NIGHT...EVIL AS
A WITCH'S CURSE...OMINOUS
AS THE DAY OF DOOM...THIS IS
KARZAK...WEIRD BIRD OF PREY,
WHOSE MISSION ON EARTH IS TO
STRIKE TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF
ALL MANKIND...ONE BY ONE, THE
BRAVEST OF THE BRAVE FALL BY THE WAY-
SIDE AS THEY BATTLE THIS THING OF EVIL--
CAN THE GOLDEN ARCHER
SUCCEED? CAN A MERE LAD BRING DEATH
TO A MONSTER AGAINST WHOM GROWN
MEN ARE HELPLESS??!!
LOCK THE DOORS AND PULL DOWN
THE SHADES AS YOU READ--

**"KARZAK
THE
DEVIL BIRD!"**

HHIGH ON A GLOOMY CRAG IN THE HINTER-LANDS OF ANCIENT ENGLAND, THE MOON SHINES DOWN ON A SCENE OF UNEARTHLY EVIL! .



FOR IT IS NOW THAT THE GHASTLY BIRD OF PREY, KARZAK, AWAKENS FROM ITS LONG WINTER SLEEP--

IT!

--AND SPREADS ITS BLACK WINGS TO SOAR OVER THE COUNTRY-SIDE--FOR KARZAK IS HUNGRY, AND ONLY HUMAN FLESH CAN FEED



JUST THEN, NED, THE GOLDEN ARCHER IS RETURNING TO ROBIN HOOD'S DELL IN SHERWOOD FOREST--



OH! A CAREFREE YOEMAN AM I--! I LOVE THE GREEN FOREST SHERWOOD, HERE I'D GLADLY LIVE AND DIE A FOR I AM A YOEMAN OF ROBIN HOOD!



AH, HAPPY LAD, WOULD YOU HELP ME CARRY THIS PAIL TO MY HUT!

VERILY, FAIR MAIDEN! I WOULD BE MOST HAPPY TO SERVE THEE!

BUT BEFORE THE GOLDEN ARCHER CAN COME A STEP CLOSER, A HORRIBLE FORM CASTS A GIGANTIC SHADOW OVER THE MAIDEN!

KARZAK!



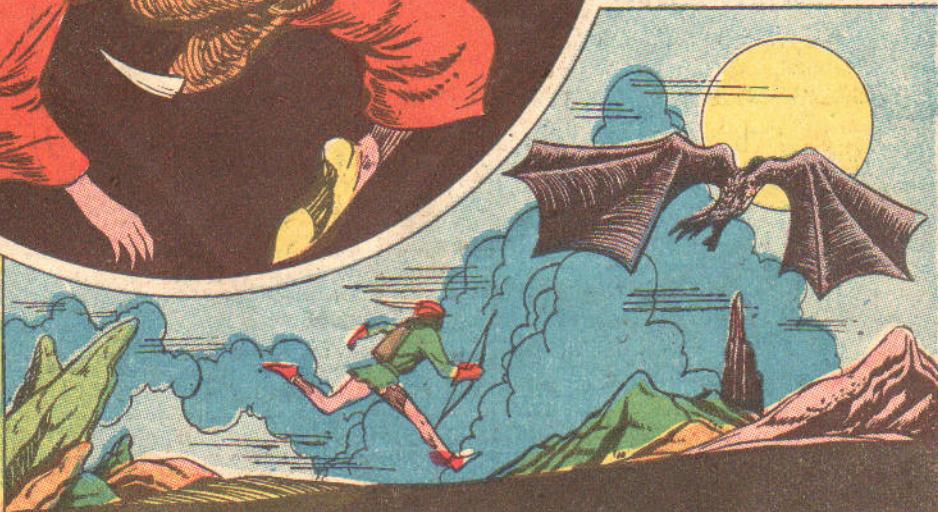
--THE WINGED DEATH--
SEIZES THE GIRL IN ONE
HUGE GNAILED TALON!

I C-C-CAN'T HELP HER! IF I SHOOT
KARZAK, HE'LL DROP HER, AND SHE'LL
BE KILLED! OH, IF ROBIN HOOD WERE
ONLY HERE!

HELP!
HELP!



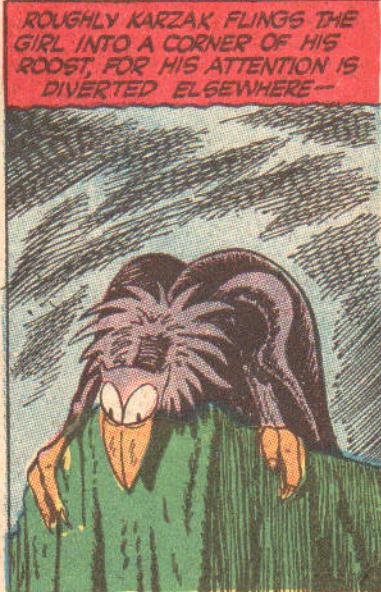
BUT--AS
KARZAK WINGS
HIS WAY TOWARD
HIS DWELLING,
THE GOLDEN
ARCHER RUNS
AFTER HIM WITH
THE SPEED OF
ONE OF HIS
OWN ARROWS--



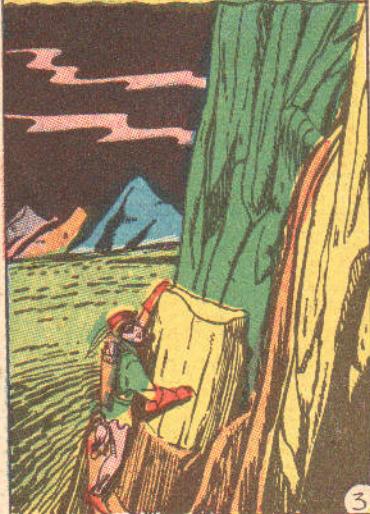
SO THAT'S
WHERE THE
OLD BIRD LIVES!
I MUST GET UP
THERE QUICKLY,
ELSE HE WILL
MAKE SHORT WORK
OF HER!



ROUGHLY KARZAK FLINGS THE
GIRL INTO A CORNER OF HIS
ROOST, FOR HIS ATTENTION IS
DIVERTED ELSEWHERE--



--TOWARD A NEW AND MORE
DANGEROUS OPPONENT--
THE GOLDEN ARCHER!



SLOWLY, CAREFULLY, THE GOLDEN ARCHER REACHES THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN PEAK -- AND COMES FACE TO FACE WITH --

KARZAK!!

ARRAGHR!



TOO CLOSE TO USE HIS BOW, THE GOLDEN ARCHER GRAPPLES WITH KARZAK --

IT'S YOU OR ME, MONSTER!

BUT KARZAK TAKES NED CLOSE TO THE EDGE --

ARRACKKK!



LIKE A TRIUMPHANT OGRE, KARZAK STRAIGHTENS OUT AND SOARS OVER THE CLIFF-TOPS WITH THE GOLDEN ARCHER CLINGING DESPERATELY TO HIS BACK!



NOT FAR AWAY, ROBIN HOOD AND LITTLE JOHN HEAR THE HORRIBLE SCREECHING OF KARZAK!

BY THE FAITH, GOOD ROBIN, DO YOU HEAR THAT AWFUL CACKLING?

I DO! AND IT'S KARZAK! COME, HE HAS ANOTHER VICTIM!



SWIFTLY THEY DASH TOWARD THE SOUNDS AND WHEN THEY REACH THE BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN CRAG-- THEY MEET THE MAID--

PLEASE-- GOOD SIRS, SAVE THAT BRAVE BOY!

IT'S THE GOLDEN ARCHER!

--TRAPPED ON KARZAK'S BACK!



WAIT, ROBIN! YOU CANNOT SHOOT HIM! NED WILL BE KILLED!

--IF I AM THE BEST BOW-MAN IN ENGLAND-- NOW IS MY TIME TO PROVE IT!

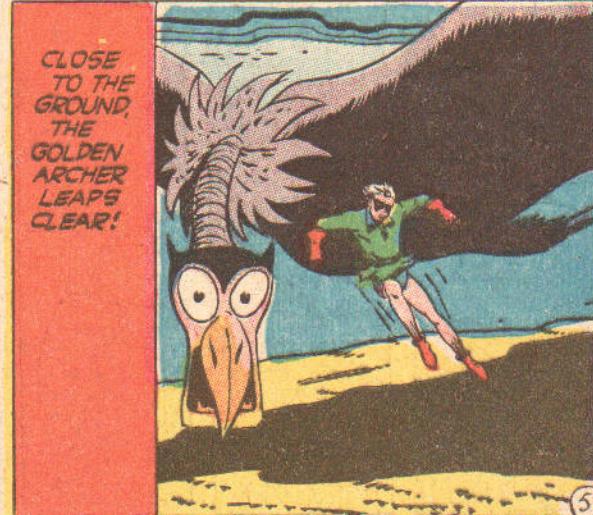


ANGERED-- MAD WITH FURY, KARZAK STREAKS DOWN TOWARD ITS NEW ENEMIES!

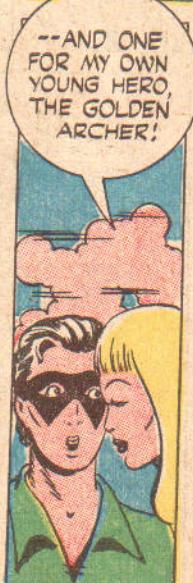
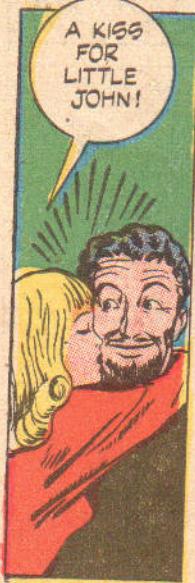
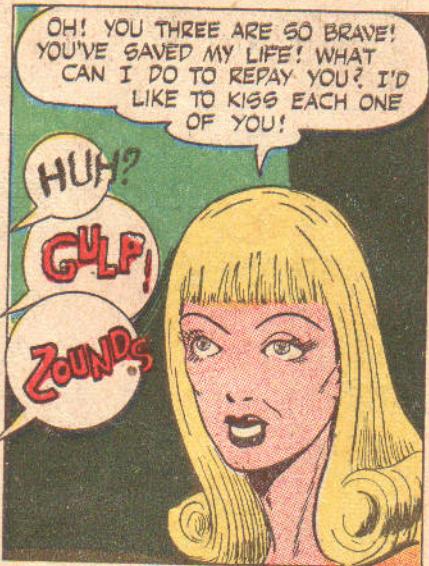
JUMP! NED-- JUMP!



CLOSE TO THE GROUND, THE GOLDEN ARCHER LEAPS CLEAR!



STREAM AFTER STREAM OF DEADLY ARROWS POUR INTO THE BODY OF THE MONSTER BIRD, KARZAK, AS THE THREE VALIANT YOEMEN OF SHERWOOD FOREST SEEK TO DESTROY THE DEVIL BIRD!



DON'T FAIL TO READ THE NEXT THRILLING ADVENTURE OF THE GOLDEN ARCHER IN THE NEXT GREAT ISSUE OF CATMAN COMICS!

LITTLE LEADERS

KEEP OFF THE CITY STREETS! OUR FOUR CRIME FIGHTING FRIENDS, THE CATMAN AND THE KITTEN, WITH MICKEY AND THE DEACON, EARNESTLY URGE ALL GIRLS AND BOYS TO HEED THEIR WARNING... SEE WHAT HAPPENS TO SOME OF OUR MODERN YOUTH WHEN IDLE TIME, WITH NOTHING TO DO, CREATES HAPPENINGS WHICH HINDER, INSTEAD OF HELP, THE WAR EFFORT...



Evening, in Centre City, and Katie and Mickey are on their way home from the public library...

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY MORE BOYS AND GIRLS DON'T GO TO THE LIBRARY-- WHY THEY'VE GOT EVERYTHING THERE....

YEAH... LOOK... HERE COME BRAD GREGAN AND JOHNNY MEAD.... AND LOOK AT THE CLOTHES THEY'RE WEARING!!



HI, MICK!... HELLO KATE... WHAT'S NEW?

NOTHIN' MUCH-- WE JUST CAME FROM THE LIBRARY....!!



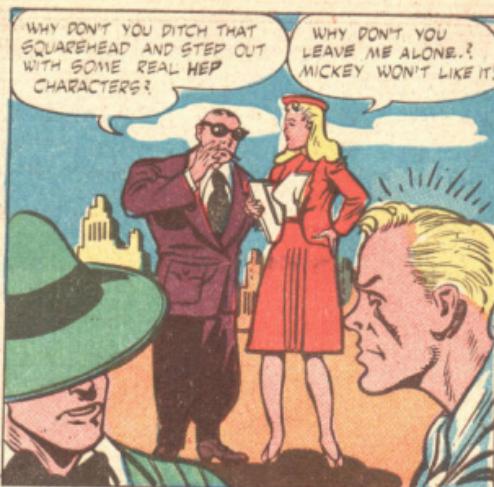
HOW'S EVERYTHING
AT THE GOOD OLD
LIBRARY-- I HAVEN'T
BEEN THERE FOR
MONTHS!

...THEY STILL
BOY THE SAME
OL' BOOKS--HAW!

YEP...
SAME OLD
STUFF..I. GUESS
THAT KATIE AND
I ARE PUSHOVERS
FOR A GOOD BOOK!

WHY DON'T YOU DITCH THAT
SQUAREHEAD AND STEP OUT
WITH SOME REAL HEP
CHARACTERS?

WHY DON'T YOU
LEAVE ME ALONE..?
MICKEY WON'T LIKE IT!



MICKEY WON'T LIKE
IT!... WANNA SEE THE
WAY THAT I TAKE CARE
OF GUYS LIKE MICKEY!
WATCH!

BRAD GREGAN--
TSK... TSK! I
THOUGHT YOU
HAD MORE
SENSE THAN
THAT--

WHY I'D HIT
THIS LITTLE PUNK
SO HARD -- THAT
HE'D--

YOU'RE
ASKING FOR
IT-- BRAD--

HAW-- THAT'S
GIVING IT TO HIM,
BRAD!



--AND HERE
IT IS--- YOU
WINDBAG!!

QFFFFF!

WHY
YOU
LITTLE--

I'LL FIX
HIM, JOHNNY--
I'LL GIVE HIM
SOME HEAT!

MICKEY!
MICKEY!
HE'S GOT
A GUN!

NO YOU DON'T,
YOU HOODLUM!!

OWWWWW!



AND A FEW SECONDS LATER THE TWO BOYS DISAPPEAR UP A SIDE STREET--

WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THAT, KATIE...?
BRAD GREGAN --- CARRYING A GUN!!!



THAT EVENING IN THE OLD MARSHLANDS CHURCH--THE HOME OF THE DEACON AND MICKEY--

GOSH...HE'S ONLY SIXTEEN...! HE'S GOING TO GET HIMSELF INTO TROUBLE!

THIS IS A SERIOUS SITUATION--A BOY OF HIS AGE CARRYING FIREARMS ILLEGALLY!

LET'S GO OVER TO KATIE'S HOUSE, LIEUT. MERRYWEATHER IS THERE... SHE TOLD ME HE WAS COMING IN THIS EVENING--

AND AN HOUR LATER OUR TOUGH-FISTED FRIENDS ARE DISCUSSING THE FINDING OF THE "GUN"

THIS GUN IN THE HANDS OF A BOY OF SIXTEEN MEANS ONLY ONE THING! THERE MUST BE AN ORGANIZED GANG IN CENTRE CITY--WHO ARE GOING TO USE CHILDREN AS TOOLS FOR THEM TO ENGAGE IN CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES--

I PROPOSE THAT YOU TWO GO OUT AND INVESTIGATE WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE TEEN AGE CHILDREN OF THIS TOWN-- REPORT BACK TO US---AND IF YOU NEED HELP--YOU KNOW WHERE WE'LL BE --- RIGHT BESIDE YOU---

A GOOD IDEA--WE'LL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF ALL THIS--



THE FOLLOWING DAY--

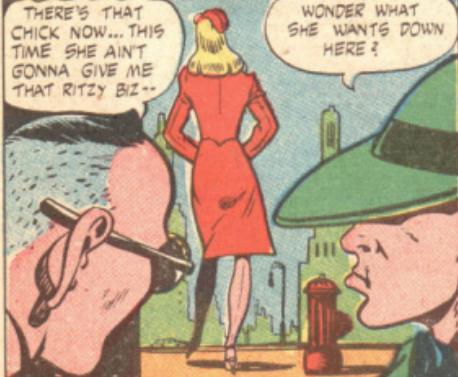
I'LL COVER THE THORNDIKE STREET SECTION--YOU WALK ALONG JAY AVENUE-- JUST KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND LOOK AROUND YOU... WELL MEET AT THE INTERSECTION AT THE END OF THE BLOCK --!

RIGHT, MICKEY!



BUT TWO PAIRS OF EYES WATCH KATIE AS SHE WALKS ALONG THE SHABBY STREET---

THERE'S THAT CHICK NOW-- THIS TIME SHE AINT GONNA GIVE ME THAT RITZY BIZ--



WONDER WHAT SHE WANTS DOWN HERE?

HELLO BEAUTIFUL-- LOOKING FOR SOMEONE?

IF I WAS, IT CERTAINLY WOULDN'T BE YOU....

HAW-- A SHARP KID!
EH BRAD?
HAW!



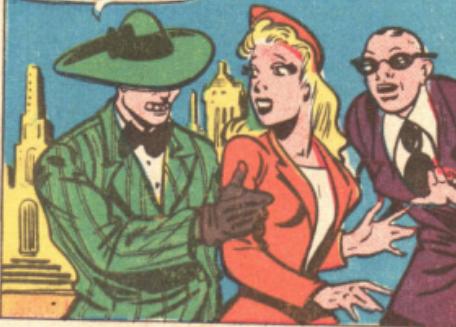
'YEAH---A LITTLE BIT
TOO SHARP FOR HER
OWN GOOD... SHE'S
GONNA TAKE A LITTLE
WALK WITH US ---!

OH NO.
I'M
NOT!

OH YES
YOU
ARE!

KNOWING THAT THE COMBINED STRENGTH OF THE
TWO IS MUCH TOO GREAT FOR HER, KATE CROUCHES
LOW---AND IN THE FRACTION OF A SECOND SHE
BECOMES---

THE
KITTY! AND I
DON'T LIKE IT!



WHEN THIS POWERFUL PARTNER OF CAT-MAN SWINGS INTO ACTION THINGS
REALLY HAPPEN...

THIS PUNCHING YOU
IS GETTING TO BE A
HABIT!

BUCH!

BUT... SOMETIMES, A FOUL BLOW
CAN BE STRUCK FROM BEHIND--

AH EEE-E!

THIS'LL
FIX HER,
BRAD!

GRECO WILL
THINK WE'RE
PRETTY SMART GUYS--
CAPTURING THE KITTEN!



MEANWHILE, AN IMPATIENT MICKEY WAITS AT THE
INTERSECTION--

THIS IS BAD!
IF SHE DOESN'T SHOW
UP IN THREE MORE
MINUTES, I'M
GOING TO--

WHAT'S UP,
PUNKS... WATCHA
GOT THERE?

WHERE'S
GRECO? WE
WANTA TALK
TO HIM...

YEAH---
AND IS HE
GOING TO BE
PROUD OF US!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, THE INERT FORM OF THE COURAGEOUS GIRL IS DUMPED BEFORE A MAN CALLED GRECO....

LOOK WHAT WE BROUGHT YOU-- THE KITTEN!

YEAH... THE CATMAN'S SIDE KICK--- HOW WE DOIN'?

THE KITTEN ?? ARE YOU CRAZY?

YOU DUMB PUNKS! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT THE CATMAN WILL TEAR THIS TOWN APART IF SHE'S MISSING? GET HER OUT OF HERE BEFORE I ORDER TWO WOODEN OVERCOATS FOR YOU!!!

O-O-O-KK-K-KKA-Y!
GRECO



A FEW MINUTES LATER--

GOSH---
WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO WITH HER?
LEAVE HER SOMEPLACE??

DON'T BE SILLY-- SHE'S NEVER GONNA GET IN MY HAIR AGAIN!
I KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HER!

YOU-- YOU-- DON'T MEAN THAT-- THAT-- YOUD KILL HER---?

I GOTTA HAVE MY FIRST KILLIN' SOMETIME-- MIGHT AS WELL BE HER-- I'F I'M EVER GONNA BE A BIG-SHOT, I GOTTA KNOW HOW IT FEELS--



SUDDENLY--

I'LL SHOW YOU HOW IT FEELS-- YOU WOULD-BE GANGSTERS!

E-E-OW! MICKEY!

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING, CHOIR BOY!

OHH-H-- MY HEAD!



AND MINUTES LATER A BATTLE ROYAL IS TAKING PLACE IN THE ALLEY--



MEANWHILE--

GRECO--GRECO!! DER'S FOUR KIDS PUNCHIN' THE DAYLIGHTS OUTTA EACH OTHER IN THE ALLEY!

BREAK IT UP! AND BRING 'EM IN HERE... I'M GONNA TEACH THESE PUNKS A LESSON!

A FEW MINUTES LATER--

ALL RIGHT, TOUGH GUYS-- TAKE IT EASY-- TAKE IT EASY!

OW... THIS ONE SCRATCHES LIKE A CAT!



BRUTE FORCE OVERPOWERS THE JUVENILES, AND NOT LONG AFTER THAT, THEY STAND FACE TO FACE WITH GRECO--

I TOLD YOU PUNKS TO GET RID OF HER... CAN'T I GIVE AN ORDER WITHOUT HAVING IT CROSSED UP?

WE WAS WINNING TILL YOU SENT YOUR HOODLUMS OUT THERE...



SHUT UP! WHEN I WANT ANY OF YOU LITTLE SQUIRTS OR YOUR SMART ANSWERS I'LL ASK FOR 'EM! WHATAH YA THINK I PAY YA FIFTY BUCKS A WEEK FOR--? NOTHIN'!!!

AS-E-E-E-E!!



THAT JOHNNY MEAD IS THE MOST SOCKED-AT GUY IN CENTER CITY!

WHAT? ARE YOU ANOTHER TOUGH LITTLE GUY?

YOU THINK YOU'RE PRETTY TOUGH YOURSELF WHEN IT COMES TO HITTIN' KIDS... I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU FIGHT SOMEONE YOUR OWN SIZE-- IF YOU PUT ONE FINGER ON THE KITTEN OR ME, I'LL PUNCH YOU IN THE HEAD!

AND I'LL CLAW HIS WIG OFF!



HAW... DIDJA HEAR THAT LOU--?!! HOW D'YA LIKE THAT FOR NERVE-- I THINK THESE KIDS GOT MORE FIGHT IN 'EM THAN MY TOUGH BOYS HERE !!

WHY DON'T YOU HIRE 'EM BOSS? THEY LOOK SMART!



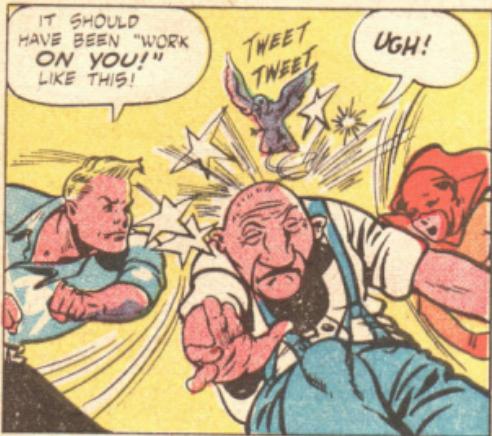
HOW WOULD YOU KIDS LIKE TO WORK FOR ME...FIFTY BUCKS A WEEK-- IT'S A SOFT RACKET!

DOING WHAT?

TAKING BETS FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL KIDS! THEY CALL IT THE NUMBERS GAME...ALL YA GOTTA DO, IS TAKE THE KID'S NICKELS AND DIMES EVERY DAY, AND PAY THEM OFF IF THEY WIN-- WHICH AIN'T VERY OFTEN!

GRECO...OR WHATEVER YOUR NAME IS... YOU MADE A MISTAKE WHEN YOU SAID "WORK FOR YOU!"

THAT'S QUITE RIGHT!



THE COPS ARE ON THEIR WAY, GRECO....DO YOU WANT TO BEHAVE QUIETLY OR WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE MY FRIENDS AND I TAKE THIS PLACE APART WITH OUR BARE HANDS!

I-I-I'LL G-G-GO QUIETLY!



LATER IN THE DAY...

WE FOLLOWED YOU TWO EVER SINCE YOU WENT OUT THIS MORNING.... THE DEACON AND I CAN GET AROUND WITHOUT BEING EASILY SPOTTED!

WE KNEW THAT SOONER OR LATER YOU'D COME ACROSS THE TRAIL THAT WOULD LEAD US TO GRECO!



THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES WILL BE INFORMED OF ALL THIS... IF CHILDREN WOULD ONLY LEARN TO STAY OFF THE STREETS AND DEVELOP Hobbies AND SPORTS INSTEAD OF PLAYING AROUND WITH GROWN-UP GAMES -- ALL THIS WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED!

MICKIE AND I ARE GOING TO ORGANIZE A CIVIC CLUBHOUSE FOR KIDS, AND ASK THE CITY TO GIVE US AN ABANDONED HOUSE TO FIX UP OUR WAY--!



A SPLENDID IDEA--IF MORE AND MORE CHILDREN OF TODAY WOULD LOOK TO THE SIMPLE AND CLEAN PASTIMES OF LIFE, INSTEAD OF THE VULGAR OR SOPHISTICATED, THEY WOULD HELP WIN THE WAR ON THE HOME FRONT--

THAT'S RIGHT-- AND THAT'S WHAT THE LITTLE LEADERS ARE PLEDGING THEMSELVES TO DO RIGHT NOW!



The End



